



CAMP ERIE 2012

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is new this year?

We have tons of exciting additions to summer camp this year!

- **New name – Camp Erie.** We have a new name but we are still the same quality camp you have come to love. The rebranding will allow you to find us easier! Look for Camp Erie for all your no school, spring break and summer day care needs.
- **We have camp for kids starting at 5 years old!!** Camp Erie will now operate out of two locations – Aspen Ridge Preparatory School (Camp Erie at ARPS) for ages 5-7, and the Erie Community Center (Camp Erie at ECC) for ages 8-12.
- **Aspen Ridge Preparatory School.** Camp Erie is growing and we found a new home for our youngest campers at Aspen Ridge Preparatory School. This additional site will allow us to add 5 year olds this year. The second location will allow us to run separate programs with activities tailored for the different age groups.
- **More space!** Not only have we have added ARPS as a location, but Camp Erie at ECC has added an additional 20 spaces to meet the high demand. This will allow us to enroll up to 180 campers per week between the two sites.
- **Individual days!** We have added the option to register for individual days, thus allowing you to build a summer camp schedule around your day care needs. Parents can now choose from full week, Tuesday & Thursday, Monday, Wednesday & Friday, or individual days.
- **New field trips!** The addition of the second camp location allows us to take the younger campers (ages 5-7) to more age appropriate field trips. We will be heading to the Aquarium, Butterfly Pavilion, Heritage Square and other age appropriate destinations for ARPS and Elitch Gardens, a Rockies Game and Xtreme Challenge with Rock'n and Jam'n for ECC. See the complete field trip list online.
- **New website address!** Find us online at www.erieco.gov/camperie

2. Will the kids at Aspen Ridge do activities at the Center or will they be at the school all the time?

Camp Erie has grown and additional space is needed to provide relief at the Center. A unique partnership with Aspen Ridge Preparatory School (ARPS) was established to provide space for a second site. Campers at ARPS will swim at the Center on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. They will also use the gym, climbing wall, multi-purpose rooms and other Center amenities during each week of camp. Additionally, campers will use the Erie Community Park. Both camps offer a mix of indoor and outdoor activities, theme days, assemblies, special events and of course lots of activity!

3. How do I register?

You can register online at www.erieparksandrec.com or in person at Guest Service at the Erie Community Center. Online registration will close on Friday, May 25. All registrations after May 25 will only be taken in person at Guest Service. This is done to ensure that all registrants receive the required camper information forms. Registration will remain open at Guest

Service until the Friday before each individual week of camp begins or until that week is full. A waitlist will be taken up to ten people, once the week is full. Affordable payment plans are available.

4. Where can I find the Camp Erie camper forms and other camp information?

Camp Erie forms and other information are available at Guest Service or online at www.erieco.gov/camperie. Go green and get your forms in faster by filling them out online!

5. If I fill out the Camp Erie Participant Forms, am I registered?

No, in order to register for camp you must enroll in the camp sessions you wish to attend, either at Guest Service or online. The Camp Erie Participant Forms give camp staff information about your child and permissions which are relevant to state licensing. The forms are due at least one week prior to attending camp. Early receipt of forms is appreciated!

6. What is your refund policy?

For Camp Erie activities cancelled by the Parks & Recreation Department, payments will be credited to your account. A refund will be issued upon written request.

A full (100%) credit or refund for Camp Erie will be issued upon written request if withdrawals are requested at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the activity start date.

No credit, refund or transfer will be issued for cancellations under six (6) calendar days prior to the activity start date.

Exception: In the event of a prolonged illness or family emergency, a 75% refund will be considered. A physician's note may be required.

Late activity registrations will not be prorated.

7. Are there payment plans?

Yes, there are payment plans available for individual days, partial week and full week sessions. Parents are required to pay a deposit of \$25 for each full week, or \$10 for each day or partial week. The balance will be due on the Friday before the week the camper attends. Payment plans are available when registering online or at Guest Service.

8. What are the qualifications and trainings for the summer camp counselors?

We follow the guidelines set by the Colorado Child Care Licensing Standards for camp staff screening and training. Camp staff are at least 16 years of age with most being 18+. Camp staff are supervised by the Camp Director and by the Assistant Camp Director. All camp staff are CPR, First Aid and AED certified and receive certification in Universal Precautions. Additionally, the camp staff are also thoroughly background checked. Prior to the start of Camp Erie, camp staff will attend 15 hours of mandatory training on various topics including: camp policies, facilitating games, and learning how to work successfully with children.

9. Does my camper need to bring a lunch?

Yes, campers must bring a nutritious sack lunch and two healthy snacks every day. Campers are prohibited from purchasing food or drinks from the vending machine during camp hours. All snacks and lunches must not require refrigeration, heating, or preparation of any kind.

10. What do you about peanut and other food allergies?

Campers with food allergies are provided a separate table to sit at during lunch and snacks. All replacement snacks and lunches (for lost snacks/lunches) are peanut-free. Also, any

camp related cooking activities consist of peanut-free ingredients. We ask campers not to share snacks and recommend all parents to provide peanut free snacks and lunches whenever possible. In the event of an emergency, camp staff are trained in medicine administration.

11. What happens during swim time?

We plan to take the campers swimming at least three times a week. ARPS campers will swim at 11:00 am on Monday, Tuesday and Fridays. ECC campers will swim at 1:30 pm on those same days. In order to reduce the impact on the pool and to give our campers a break on swimming, Camp Erie will not swim on Wednesdays or Thursdays. ARPS campers will have access to the slide, play feature, and lazy river (depending on swimming ability). ECC campers will have access to the whole pool (depending on swimming ability). Swimming will generally take place for an hour each day and all campers will be swim tested on their first day of camp. A swim shirt is highly recommended as the campers often get cold. As a courtesy to our other guests, campers will not be allowed to use the hot tub at any time. For those campers who do not want to swim, an alternate activity will be provided.

12. Can my camper use floaties or a swim vest?

Unfortunately, floaties and swim vests will not be allowed at camp. Erie Community Center pool rules require children who use floaties or swim vests normally to be within arm's reach of an adult or in this case, camp staff member, at all times. To ensure the safety of all campers, we will not allow campers to use these items. Campers who are poor swimmers will use the play structure and zero depth pool.

13. Will the campers go off site?

Both camps will go off site on Thursdays for field trips. The two camps will go to different field trip locations, for most weeks. This is done to provide age-appropriate options for our youngest to oldest campers. A complete listing of field trips is located online at www.erieco.gov/camperie. In addition to field trips, the campers will frequently participate in activities at the Erie Community Park. Occasionally, the campers may go to a local park such as Erie Commons Park or to Thomas Reservoir to do a special activity, but for the majority of the time the campers will be at the Center (or ARPS).

14. What if my camper does not want to go on the field trip?

Unfortunately, there will be no additional summer camp activities or care held at the Erie Community Center or ARPS during field trip days. If your camper does not want to attend a field trip but has registered for the week, please let us know and we may be able to assist in finding other classes or activities that may meet your child's interests. These activities will not be affiliated with Camp Erie and may require an additional registration fee. Another choice is to register for the M/W/F partial week option or individual days.

15. Who will give my camper medicine if they need it?

We do ask that all medicine is administered before coming to camp each day, but, if any medicine is needed during the day, medicine will be administered by trained camp staff in accordance with Colorado Child Care Licensing Standards.

16. What is your process for taking the campers to the bathroom?

We typically employ a buddy system for bathroom breaks. We pair off two children of similar age and of the same gender to go to the bathroom together while a camp staff member watches for their return. If the bathroom is out of visual sight, a camp staff member will accompany two or more children and wait outside the facilities. Campers also have the opportunity to use the bathroom before and after each snack and lunch break.

17. Will the campers be broken up into ages?

Yes, the campers will be broken up into groups by age. This allows for all campers to participate in games and activities along with similar aged peers. Camp is broken up into the following age groups: Miners (5-7 years), Pioneers (8-9 years), and Explorers (10-12 years).

18. Can I pick up my camper early?

Yes, you may pick up your camper early from Camp. Please speak with the Camp Director or Assistant Camp Director during the morning sign-in to determine the time and location for the early pick up. There are no prorated fees for any early sign outs.

19. Where do the campers get dropped off and picked up each day?

Camp starts at 9:00 am and ends at 5:00 pm each day. Before and after camp care is also available, for an additional fee. Sign in and sign out for Camp Erie at ECC will take place in the Briggs Room at the Erie Community Center, and sign in and sign out for Camp Erie at ARPS will take place in the cafeteria at the Aspen Ridge Preparatory School.

20. Why does the sign in/sign out person have to be 18 years old?

The Colorado Department of Health Services, Division of Child Care requires all campers to be signed in and signed out by an adult 18 years of age or older. The only exception is if the parent has signed the consent form for a camper, 10 years of age or older, to sign themselves in and out of camp. Campers under 10 years cannot be picked up or dropped off by anyone under 18 years of age.

21. Why do I have to go to the parent orientation?

The parent orientation is Monday, May 26 at 7:00 pm at the Erie Community Center. This is your chance to meet the camp staff, ask any remaining questions, review the camp policies, learn about the changes to camp, such as the new location at Aspen Ridge Preparatory School, and see the areas the campers will be using during camp. Campers are welcome to attend and activities will be provided for them.

Additional questions?

Please contact: Matt LaPorte, Camp Director

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Phone: 303-926-2797

www.erieco.gov/camperie

Camp Erie policies and procedures are explained in depth in the Parent Manual